ABSTRACT

A traffic-free Internet access technique. Internet content moves between Internet servers via the Internet and from servers to clients via one-way broadcast television systems so that all clients requested the same content could download it simultaneously from a TV channel. Server receives requests for Internet files from clients via telephone, downloads the files from the Web and retransmits them in a broadcast manner via a broadcast television medium along with some other frequently requested files. Server broadcasts in advance a timetable of the transmission so that client computers could automatically control channel selectors connecting them to the broadcast medium thus downloading files requested by their users. To minimize client/server interaction via telephone, server continues to repeatedly retransmit each Internet file during a period of time proportional to a number of clients requested that file while client sends a request to server for a file requested by its user only if the file has not been scheduled for transmission.